

Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

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INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E. O. 11652: N / A

TAGS: PINT , GB

SUBJ: BONGO LASHES MINISTERS AND BUREAUCRATS

1. AT JUNE 6 OPEN MEETING WITH ALL HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS PRESIDENT BONGO CONDEMNED GABONESE MINISTERS AND ADMINISTRATORS FOR, AMONG OTHER TRANSGRESSIONS, " INCOMPETENCE, INEFFICIENCY, LACK OF PROFESSIONAL CONSCIENCE, LAZINESS, FEAR OF RESPONSIBILITY, FAILURE OF COORDINATION. ABSENTEEISM, NEPOTISM, AND TRIBLAISM." HE PROMISED THAT THIS REPRESENTED HIS LAST WARNING, FOR " IF IT IS THE LAST TANGO IN PARIS, THIS IS THE LAST WALTZ IN GABON."

2. IN ORDER TO FIND SOLUTION TO THIS " MALAISE" BONGO REQUESTED ALL PRESENT SPEAK THEIR MINDS ON CAUSES AND REMEDIES.

3. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT DAILY, RESPONSE CONSISTED OF " EXCESSIVE DIATRIBES", " PERSONAL OR MINOR PREOCCUPATIONS", AND " POLEMICS." BONGO REPORTEDLY LEFT 5- HOUR MEETING EXTREMELY " DISSATISFIED", DISAPPOINTED" AND " FROWNING."

4. BONGO PERIODICALLY TONGUE- LASHES HIS BUREAUCRATS AND
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MINISTERS IN THIS FASHION, ON GROUNDS SUCH TREATMENT KEEPS
THEM SOMEWHAT ON THEIR TOES AND DEMONSTRATES TO PEOPLE WHO
IT IS WHO REALLY CARES FOR THEM. THUS OVER YEARS BUREAU-
CRATS HAVE COME TO EXPECT SUCH ATTACKS.

5. THIS TIME, HOWEVER, BONGO SPOKE EVEN MORE HARSHLY
THAN USUAL. HIS TONE, LACK OF BUREAUCRATIC RESPONSE, AND
PUBLICITY GIVEN BONGO' S DISCONTENT WITH WHOLE SESSION
SUGGESTS ADDED DETERMINATION ON PART BONGO AND LIKELIHOOD
THAT AT LEAST MINOR INTERNAL SHAKEUP MAY BE IN WORKS.
MCKESSON

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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